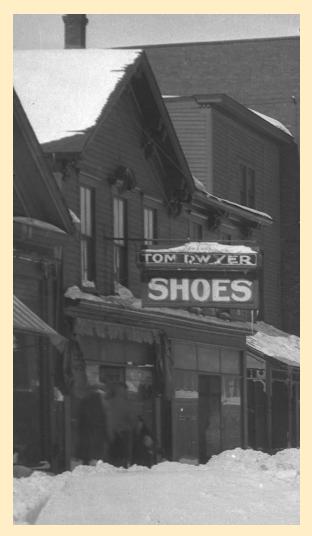
205-207 5th St. ca. 1875



NPS, KNHP, Marzene Slide 50, 5th Street ca. 1925

This building was built sometime around 1875. For much of its early history, the north storefront was occupied by a saloon. The south storefront was occupied by various businesses over the years, including a jewelry store, sample rooms, and a store that sold musical instruments. A tailor also had a shop in the building for a while. Sometime around 1920, Tom Dwyer opened a shoe store in the south storefront. In 1928, August and Lempi Sutinen moved from Hancock to 216 North Florida Street in Laurium, and bought the shoe store from Dwyers.

They renamed it the Family Shoe Store. August and Lempi's son Rudy and his wife June eventually took over the business, which remained open until sometime around 2000. In 1930, Anton Sterk sold clothing for men and boys in the north storefront. Sterk lived at 317 Scott Street. In the 1920s, the second floor windows of this building were boarded up, and asphalt siding was installed. The present owners have recently restored the window openings and returned the façade to a more historically appropriate appearance.



NPS, Keweenaw NHP, Sutinen Black Album #048, Dwyers Shoe Store, ca. 1930

In 1913, Peter Sauer had a saloon in this building in the north storefront. The south storefront was used as sample rooms, where travelling salesmen could display their wares, in connection with the saloon. The Sauer family also lived in this building. By 1913, Peter was 74 years old, and widowed. His son Albert worked in the saloon, daughters Bertha and Wilhelmina were teachers, and daughter Laura was keeping house.